

## **National Weather Service** Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

Number of

Estimated

Path



January 2003

Time Local/ Path Length Width Damage Persons SOUTH DAKOTA, West SDZ001>002-012>014-026- Harding - Perkins - Butte - Northern Meade Co Plains - Ziebach - Rapid City - Pennington Co Plains - Haakon - Sturgis / 031>032-072>074 Piedmont Foothills - Southern Meade Co Plains - Hermosa Foothills High Wind (G73) 0700MST A strong cold front moved through western South Dakota early in the morning. As the front passed through, a tight pressure gradient developed and strong winds aloft were able to reach the surface. This resulted in very strong and gusty winds across northwestern South Dakota, where winds were sustained at 40 to 50 mph and gusts reached 60 to 70 mph. The strongest winds were recorded at Buffalo in Harding County, which had a maximum sustained wind speed of 64 mph and a peak gust of 84 mph. SDZ001>002-013>014-032- Harding - Perkins - Northern Meade Co Plains - Ziebach - Haakon - Mellette - Tripp 046-049 0000MST 0800MST Winter Storm 15 16 A slow moving low pressure system moved across the Central Plains and brought heavy snow to much of western South Dakota. Northwestern South Dakota received 8 to 10 inches of snow and a few locations in Perkins and Harding Counties measured 12 inches of snow. Gusty northwest winds accompanied the snow, causing some blowing and drifting snow, and visibilities less than a mile SDZ001>002-012>014-Harding - Perkins - Butte - Northern Meade Co Plains - Ziebach - Northern Black Hills - Northern Foot Hills - Pennington 024>025-031-072>073 Co Plains - Sturgis / Piedmont Foothills - Southern Meade Co Plains 17 18 1800MST 0421MST Winter Storm A strong cold front raced across the Northern Plains during the late afternoon and evening. Although very little snow fell with the cold front, four to twelve inches of fresh snow cover from a previous storm combined with sustained winds 25 to 40 mph and gusts over 50 mph to produce blowing and drifting snow. The blowing snow led to white-out and ground blizzard conditions with visibilities near zero at times. Wind chill values fell to 15 below zero. Several automobile accidents occurred as a result of the hazardous conditions. WYOMING, Northeast **Wyoming Black Hills WYZ057** 1825MST 0 Winter Storm A strong and fast moving cold front raced across the northern plains during the late afternoon and evening hours. Very little snow fell as the cold front passed, however, two to five inches of fresh snowcover was present across the area from a storm that moved through a few days earlier. Also, behind this cold front strong northwest winds of 25 to 40 mph, with gusts to over 50 mph were common. The strong winds combined with the snow cover to produce blowing and drifting snow. The blowing snow led to white-out and ground blizzard conditions at times. Visibilities were reduced to near zero at times with several automobile accidents across the area during the late afternoon and evening hours. The strong winds also produced wind chill values as low as 15 degrees below zero.